-	7++	Daladaak	NT-	0445
7	Attorney	DOCKEL	NO.	84454

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## 3 OPTICAL FIBER COUPLER

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## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 6 Optical fiber coupler for coupling fiber optic elements includes a first fiber optic element extending in a first 7 direction to position a free end thereof in a selected zone, and 8 a second fiber optic element extending into the selected zone 9 10 from an opposite direction to position a free end of the second fiber optic element in the zone confronting the first fiber optic 11 12 element free end. A cured optical grade epoxy resin body defines the zone and envelopes the free ends of the fiber optic elements, 13 to effect physical and optical connection between the first and 14 15 second fiber optic elements. Once cured, the housing material is removed leaving the completed coupler device. The free ends of 16 17 the fiber optic elements are in close proximity, or in the case

of coupling from one strand to a plurality of strands, in enough

of a spaced relation, to permit required light diffusion.